



**WHERE  
OPPORTUNITY  
BECKONS**

**THE EDMONTON DISTRICT  
CENTRAL ALBERTA  
CANADA**

# *A True and Hearty Welcome Awaits You*

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In the Edmonton District there is plenty of room for more farmers. We are looking for people like ourselves to come and settle among us.

We have all done well in this country. You have a chance to do well, too. This is the land where OPPORTUNITY beckons and where hopes come true.

If you come to prospect land, we will assist you in doing so. If you come as a settler, we will welcome you as a neighbor.

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# THE EDMONTON DISTRICT CENTRAL ALBERTA, CANADA

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**T**HE purpose of this book is to give information on the Edmonton District, the central part of Alberta, to people in other parts of the world who are looking for land on which they can make a permanent home, where they can live under good conditions and enjoy life among people just like themselves.

To newcomers of this class, the Edmonton District extends a welcome. It offers an opportunity for a comfortable living on land of the highest fertility, which is increasing in value as population grows. The success of the farmer in this territory depends on just two things—his suitability to farm life and his willingness to work. Every natural condition is favorable to him.

Nowhere can a man who wishes to establish himself and his family in grain growing or mixed farming do better than in the Edmonton District. An inspection of the District will prove that this is so.

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The Edmonton District Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary association. It has no land or anything else to sell. It is working to secure more farmers, regardless of what part of the Edmonton District in which they desire to settle.

Therefore, its information is accurate and impartial with regard to every part of the District. It will be furnished cheerfully and without cost to all who apply. Write freely. Address:

JOHN BLUE, Secretary, Edmonton, Canada.

Before making up your mind to move anywhere, come over and see us and our land. Let us know when you are coming, and we will meet you and show you over the section which will suit you best. Come by automobile or train. See suggestions for travel on page 44 and following pages.

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When you decide to buy land in the Edmonton District you will find many well-established and thoroughly reliable farm land agencies in this District with whom you can do business with perfect safety.

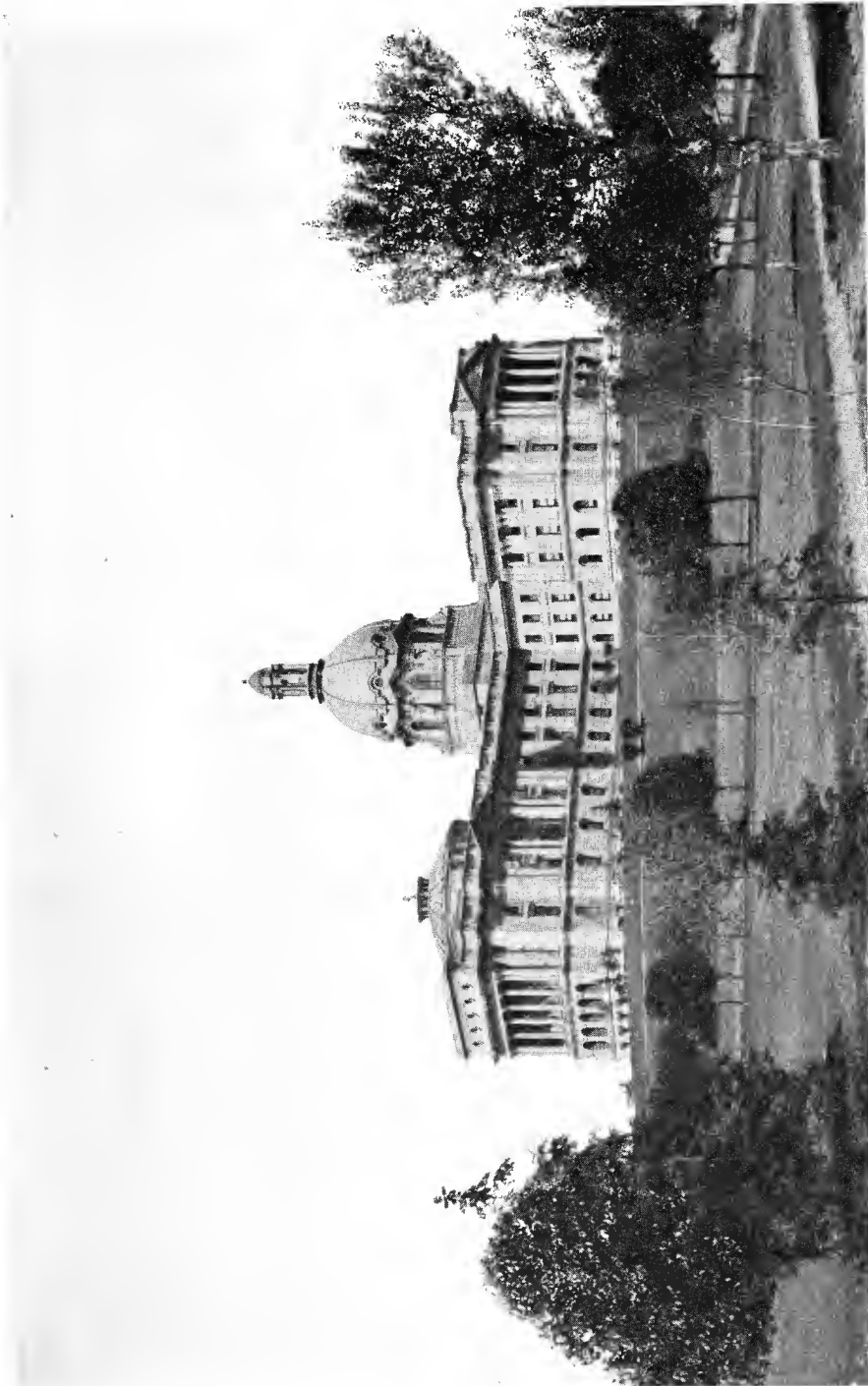
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## EDMONTON DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

(SECOND EDITION)

P88.12.19/11



Legislative Assembly Building of Alberta, Edmonton.

32907



## The Location of Edmonton

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THE Edmonton District is the central part of the Province of Alberta, Canada. About 200 miles north of the Montana boundary a distinct change in the appearance of the land, in the soil and in the vegetation of the Province is seen. This is the beginning of the Edmonton District. It extends to the boundary of the Province on the east and to the Rocky Mountains on the west.

The City of Edmonton, the centre of the Edmonton District, is 300 miles north of the Montana boundary. To the north-west, 250 miles away, lies the far-famed Peace River Valley, a vast territory of proven fertility and moderate climate.

The whole Province of Alberta is 253,540 square miles in extent. Its population was 588,454 in 1921 (Government census). Today it is about 640,000 (Dominion Government estimate). The area of the Edmonton District (not including the Peace River Country) is approximately 75,000 square miles. Its population is approximately 375,000, of which 65,385 are located in the City of Edmonton, 50,000 in the towns and villages throughout the District, and 260,000 on the farms. Little more than one-sixth of the area is occupied.

The District lies in the same latitude as the south of England, Belgium, northern France and Holland. It lies south of Denmark, one of the greatest dairying countries in the world.

If the map of Alberta were laid down over the map of Europe on the same latitude, it would cover most of the great industrial cities of that continent. Although it is about only three-tenths of the whole area of Alberta, the Edmonton District is larger than Illinois, Iowa, New York or North Dakota, and about the same size as Nebraska, Kansas or South Dakota.

### An Extensive River System

The principal waterway of the Edmonton District is the Saskatchewan River, which, rising in the Rocky Mountains, crosses the District from west to east. Important tributaries of the Saskatchewan are the Clearwater, Battle, Vermilion and Ribstone from the south; from the north, the Brazeau, Wabamum, Sturgeon, Redwater, and White Earth. The Red Deer with its tributaries, the Medicine and the Blindman, drain the southern slope of the District. Other rivers watering the northern part of the Edmonton District are the Macleod, Pembina, Tawatinaw, La Biche, Athabaska and Beaver rivers. This extensive river system indicates a country of regular and abundant rainfall.

## The Edmonton District

It is only a shade over thirty years since the Edmonton District was pierced by railway. It did not even enter Edmonton city, on account of the huge cost of bridging the wide valley of the Saskatchewan. For years it remained a challenge to Edmonton—answered by Edmonton's constant and substantial growth. The day came, however, when the railroad crossed the river and proceeded far to the north, tapping new country in the interests of Edmonton's trade.

### Well Supplied With Railways

Today, steam railways radiate from Edmonton in every direction and traverse the Edmonton District. Improved highways also are being extended in every direction.

To the Edmonton District come both lines of the Canadian National Railways from Winnipeg, the one through the central portion and the other through the northern portion of the neighboring Province.

These lines converge west of Edmonton and then separate, the one going on to the Pacific Ocean at Prince Rupert, the other following the Thompson and Fraser River Valleys to Vancouver, the Pacific grain ports of Western Canada.

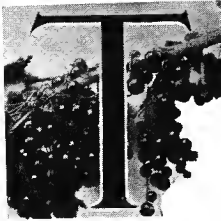
Southwards, the Canadian Pacific Railway and two lines of the Canadian National Railway traverse the Edmonton District, and of the first named a branch swings off to Winnipeg at Wetaskiwin.

North-westerly the Canadian National Railway runs to Whitecourt, 108 miles, while the Edmonton, Dunvegan and B. C. Railway, operated by the Canadian Pacific, furnishes an outlet for the Peace River country, extending to Grande Prairie, a distance of over 400 miles. Northward the Canadian National Railway stretches across the overland trail to Athabaska Landing, on the Athabaska River; while in a north-easterly direction the Alberta and Great Waterways Railway runs to Waterways, a distance of 300 miles, and connects Edmonton with 3,000 miles of river and lake navigation; while another branch follows the course of the Saskatchewan River to St. Paul, a distance of 129 miles from Edmonton.

From Wetaskiwin and Camrose, south and east of Edmonton, branch lines radiate, while on the south the district is served by two lines running east and west, through Red Deer. From Lacombe, the Lacombe and North-western Railway runs in a north-westerly direction towards Edmonton, traversing a new and productive part of the Edmonton District.

In all, there are about 3,000 miles of steam railways in the Edmonton District.

## Character of the Land



THE Province of Alberta is divided into three areas, each of a different type. The first area comprises the southern part, a treeless rolling prairie.

The second or central part, which comprises the Edmonton District, is mostly a park-like country with numerous lakes and streams, and with wide stretches of gently rolling prairie. It has a greater average rainfall and a heavier and more varied vegetation than the southern area.

The third area, which lies north of the Edmonton District, beyond the Athabaska and Beaver Rivers, is the region of great rivers, lakes and forests, broken by immense tracts of open country.

### Open Park Country

On account of its great extent, the Edmonton District naturally presents considerable local variation of soil, conformation and appearance of the country. Speaking generally, however, the country is gently undulating, a succession of wide ridges and broad valleys, freely interspersed with lakes and streams and covered in places with sufficient timber (mostly spruce, poplar, cottonwood, birch, willow and alder) to give the landscape a pleasing and hospitable appearance. Some parts of the district are covered by dense forests which supply lumber and other timber for building purposes and other uses. The open spaces that have not been brought under the plow are covered with a great variety of grasses, wild peas and vetches, and are rendered still more beautiful by a luxuriant growth of wild flowers. Strawberries grow in the woodlands and on the northern slopes. Red and black currants, gooseberries and choke cherries and saskatoon berries grow in profusion, and raspberries spring up everywhere along the fences and wherever the land is cleared.

No wonder the early explorers referred to this territory as "The Fertile Belt." No section of the entire west has been more richly endowed. Its resources are a revelation to the newcomer.

A hundred years ago Alexander Ross, an observer and writer who was familiar with the Canadian west, described the appearance of the Edmonton District as follows:

"The land rises gradually from each side of the river, and  
"recedes as gradually back in a green, undulating surface.  
"It has been well termed a land of parks and prairies; a land  
"teeming with buffalo and deer, lakes and wild fowl; and for  
"diversity of landscape or beauty of scenery few countries  
"can equal and none can surpass."



A Field of Marquis Wheat. Gives a good idea of the rolling park-like nature of the country.

## Central Alberta, Canada

This was the home of vast herds of the native buffalo and antelope, now supplanted by the cattle of the range and the dairy farm. The farmer has won much of the land from the native pea-vine and wild grasses, and he is now raising unequalled crops of grain, forage and roots.

### Blanket of Rich Loam

Under this whole district lies a subsoil of marly clay many feet deep, and over this a layer of black or brown vegetable loam, the deposit of past ages, high in that mineral and vegetable content which produces thick and profuse vegetation. This black or brown layer is very retentive of moisture, very friable, free from stones and easy to till. It is well adapted for the growing of wheat, oats, barley, rye, timothy, clover, roots, potatoes, and other grains and vegetables.

Everywhere throughout the Edmonton District good water is abundant in the numerous creeks, streams and lakes. Good, sweet water, much of it soft water, may be obtained anywhere in the District at depths varying from 20 to 75 feet.

Much of this wonderland is in its raw state ready for the plow. The land covered with light trees and brush is easily cleared at moderate cost. Heavier timbered land, of course, costs more to clear, but those who choose these sections of the country will be well repaid the labor or expense of bringing their land under cultivation. Such land is generally good land.

## Climate



THE climate of the Edmonton District is one of its best natural resources. Each season of the year contributes its quota to a set of climatic conditions that is peculiarly favorable to the rapid growth and perfect ripening of grain. It is these climatic conditions, coupled with the characteristics of its soil, that has given the Edmonton District higher yields and higher qualities of grain on a ten-year average than any other Province in Canada or State in the American Union.

The geographical position of the Edmonton District has a great deal to do with its favorable climate. It is far enough north to have long days of sunshine and warmth in the growing season, and sufficient frost in winter to retain the reserve moisture in the soil. Its proximity to the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean protects it from extremes of heat and cold and gives it a shorter winter.

## The Edmonton District

### Influence of Pacific Ocean

Due to the fact that the District lies immediately east of the Rocky Mountains and is within a few hundred miles of the Pacific Ocean, it is not subject to the same extremes of either heat or cold as the interior plains further east and south-east. This is particularly true of the winter season. During this season the warm vapor-laden winds from the Pacific Ocean blow eastward over British Columbia, where they strike against the mountain ranges. Here most of the vapor is condensed and falls as rain or snow in British Columbia. But as the vapor condenses it liberates heat, and the result is that the winds cross the Rocky Mountains to the Edmonton District drier and warmer, and thus mitigate the severity of the weather and shorten the winter. Its geographical relation to other air currents has much to do with its bountiful rainfall in the growing season.

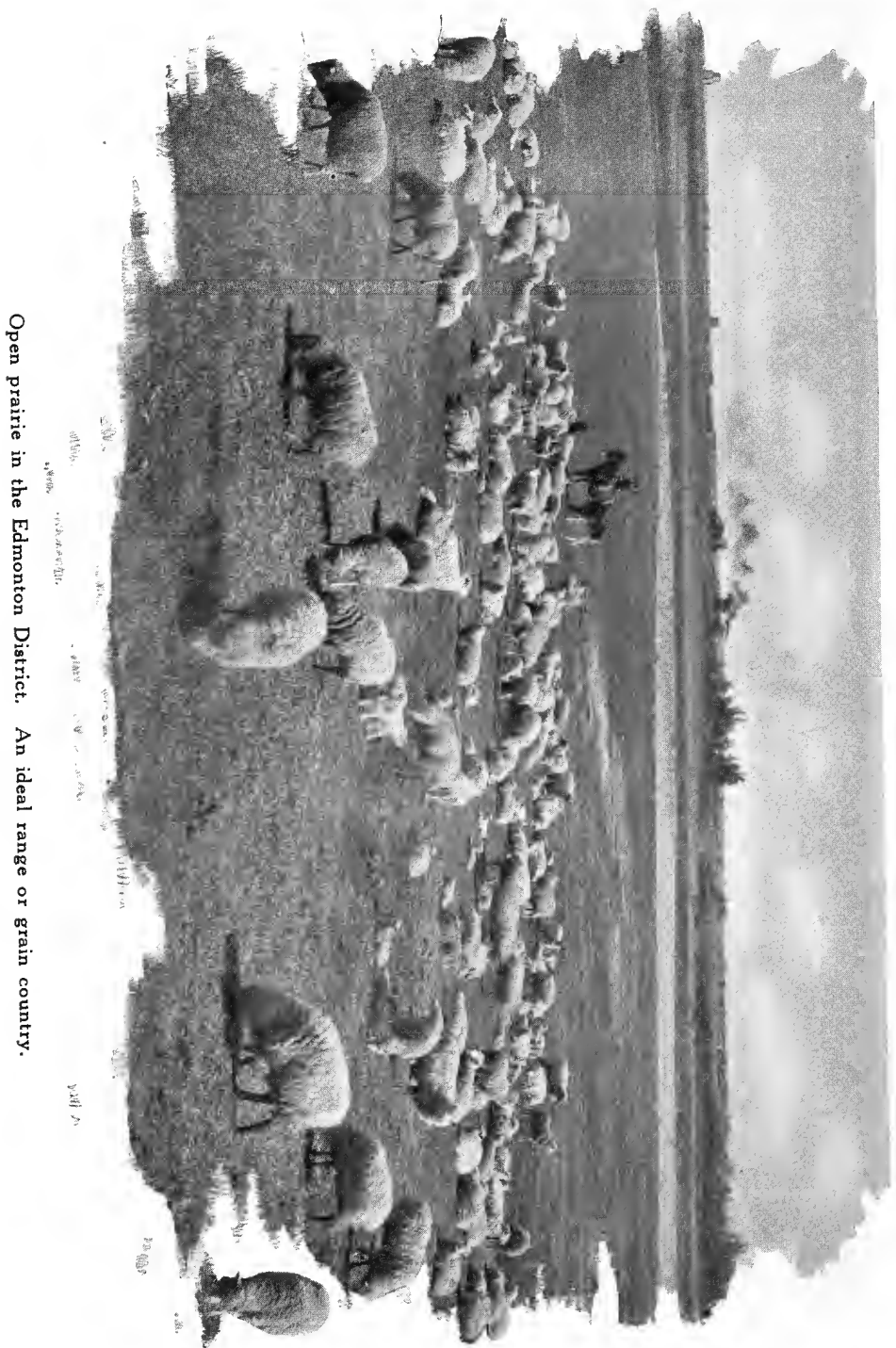
But each season is worthy of explanation by itself:

The distinctive characteristics of summer, in addition to the long days of sunshine and warmth and the bountiful rains of the growing season, to both of which reference has already been made, are the long evening twilights and the cool refreshing nights. These latter and the absence of humidity, make it possible to enjoy to the full the warmth of summer days that mean so much to ripening crops. The difference in length of the summer day and percentage of sunshine is such as to extend the actual growing period by ten or eleven days as compared with several of the States of the mid-west. This is further insurance against early frost and accounts for the high percentage of gluten in the wheat of the Edmonton District.

The autumn season in the Edmonton District cannot be surpassed anywhere. It is ushered in by touches of frost during the nights of early September, although the daylight hours of this month are usually as hot as summer, reaching a temperature of 80 to 85 degrees. At this time the trees begin to turn; the leaves become brilliant reds and yellows and bronzes; the blue lakes gleam against the marge of willows beneath the mellow sunlight of the gradually shortening days. These autumn days usually continue until the end of November, and sometimes to the middle of December. This is the season when the farmer, relieved from the pressing work of his grain crop, finds time to take his gun and go after partridge, prairie chicken, ducks and geese, which abound in all parts of the Edmonton District.

### No Blizzards or Fog

The climate of winter is characterized by light snowfall, brilliant sunshine, fresh, bracing air, moderate cold with occasional short spells of still lower temperature, and an entire absence of blizzards, dampness and fog. January and February are usually the coldest months. At Edmonton the mean



Open prairie in the Edmonton District. An ideal range or grain country.



Sunflowers for the silo. Corn is a Coming Crop in the Edmonton District.

## Central Alberta, Canada

maximum temperature for January is 15 degrees above zero and the mean minimum 4 degrees below. The average mid-day temperature during these two months is 44 degrees above zero. The occasional spells of colder weather last but a few days, and during them the brilliant sunshine continues and there is practically no wind. Soon the cold snap is broken by softening winds from the Pacific Ocean and the thermometer rises quickly to a point at which, in the dry air of the Edmonton District, the weather is really comfortable and invigorating—a tonic and a delight. Even during these two coldest months cattle, horses and sheep are fed in the open. During March there is a substantial rise in average temperature, and severe extremes are rare.

Winter passes quickly into spring. Seeding commences as early as April 10th, but usually from the 15th to the 20th of that month. The frosts of winter have preserved the reserve moisture in the soil. The heat of the sun's rays soon brings up this moisture and it gives the seed a splendid start, making it ready for the warm, nourishing rains which commence about the middle of May.

### **Certain and Ample Rainfall**

Rain comes regularly every season in the Edmonton District. This is proven by official records of rainfall which have been kept by the Government Meteorological Service since 1883, and at other points in the District for some fifteen to twenty years. These records show that the entire District gets an average rainfall of about 20 inches per year. This may seem comparatively light to those accustomed to an annual precipitation of 30 inches or more, but 65 per cent. of the rain in the Edmonton District comes during the growing season—May, June, July and August—just at the time when it is needed and when, on account of the long days of sunshine and warmth, it is of most use to the growing crops. There is little evaporation in summer, and there are no drenching rains in the fall or winter to rob the soil of its fertility.

### **Low Priced Land**

Western Canada is the "Last West" and the Edmonton District is the best of the "Last West."

Good raw or unimproved land in the Edmonton District can be purchased at prices ranging from \$15 to \$25 per acre. The price will depend upon its location with respect to railways, towns, schools, and other advantages.

These raw lands are available because they never were open for homestead entry. In the early days, the Government of Canada reserved many millions of acres of land in Western Canada to aid in railway construction and for other national purposes. A large acreage of these lands was situated in the Edmonton District.

## The Edmonton District

These lands were not reserved in large blocks, but were scattered throughout the entire District. Active settlement of the Edmonton District began only after 1905, and naturally the first lands taken up were the free homestead grants. Railway construction and free land attracted a large immigration, which practically exhausted the homestead lands within sixty miles of Edmonton before the outbreak of the Great War in 1914.

The war stopped immigration. Human energy and financial resources were diverted into other channels. Following the war the prices for wheat and agricultural products generally were uncertain. There was a decided slump in the agricultural industry all over America. This condition made it difficult for farmers to move from older communities and take advantage of low-priced land in a new country like this. But during the last year or two the agricultural industry has recovered, and the prices of farm products have been restored to a reasonable level in comparison with the prices of other commodities. A crop of high quality wheat on high yielding land is very profitable. History is repeating itself, and another big movement is under way to acquire the last of this new land of the Edmonton District and reap the big profits.

### Low Costs of Production

The price of this land bears no relation to its intrinsic value, i.e., value based on production. Compared with land in other parts of North America it is on the average more fertile and will produce more per acre at less cost. This statement is borne out by the findings of the United States Tariff Commission, 1923-24. For example, the Commission showed that at Westlock, fifty miles north of Edmonton City, the yield of wheat for 1923 was 41.7 bushels per acre, and for a three-year average (1921-1923) the average yield of wheat for that district was 33.2 bushels per acre. At the same time the cost of production per bushel was only 53 cents, the lowest in North America. The average yield of wheat per acre in the Edmonton District for the last ten years has been 23 bushels.

Homestead lands are not recommended to those who have sufficient capital to purchase. Good land located in well developed communities with good transportation facilities and established markets, can be purchased with a small cash payment and easy terms on the balance. It is not unusual for a farmer to pay the entire price of his land with one or two crops. It is just the same here as it has been in each succeeding new stretch of country that has been opened in America. Land for the time being is plentiful. Therefore, the price is exceedingly low in relation to the high value of what it produces.

### High Yields on Low Priced Lands

The opportunity for high priced wheat on low priced land has never



A Farm Home 60 miles north-west of the City of Edmonton.

## The Edmonton District

waited long in any other part of America. It will not wait long here. Men who are on rented farms in older communities can pay for a farm in the Edmonton District in a few years with the rent they are now paying. They are learning that taxes are lower on low priced land. Here in a few years they can acquire, buy, pay for and own homes for themselves and secure plenty of land for the boys.

It needs but a simple calculation to figure how much land can be bought in the Edmonton District for the price secured for an improved farm in older localities. The average value of unimproved lands in the West-North-Central States is at least \$75; in Edmonton District, \$15 per acre. Figured from the standpoint of profit, based on dollar for dollar of capital invested in land, the returns from wheat raised in the Edmonton District as compared with the West-North-Central States shows an enormous advantage in favor of the Edmonton District, as the following illustration will show:

### **Investment:**

160 acres West-North-Central States @ \$75.....	\$12,000.
160 acres Edmonton District @ \$15.....	2,400.

### **Total Returns:**

Yield of 160 acres in West-North-Central States, average 14 bushels per acre.....	2,240 bus
Yield of 160 acres in Edmonton District, average 23 bush- els per acre.....	3,680 bus.

### **Value:**

2,240 bushels of wheat West-North-Central States @ \$1.00 per bushel .....	\$ 2,240.
3,680 bushels of wheat Edmonton District @ \$1.00 per bushel	3,680.

### **Gross Profit:**

\$12,000. farm in West-North-Central States returns \$2,240. gross from wheat or percentage on money invested of.....	18.66
\$2,400. farm in Edmonton District returns \$3,680. gross from wheat or percentage on money invested of.....	153.3

## Grain Production—Highest in Yield and in Quality

All the ordinary field crops, except corn, are grown to perfection in the Edmonton District. Even corn will soon be one of the District's staple crops. Varieties of corn adapted to the local conditions are being produced with greater success each year.

In wheat, oats, barley, rye, flax, and peas, the Edmonton District has won first place for quality at many International Shows at Chicago and elsewhere.

## Central Alberta, Canada

### Wheat of Quality

Away back in 1876, when there were less than a score of wheat fields in the vast territory now known as Alberta, a pioneer missionary grew wheat at Fort Vermilion, 400 miles north of Edmonton, that won the first prize at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. At the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 another pioneer missionary of the Peace River District won the highest award for wheat which he grew 250 miles north-west of Edmonton. Similar successes were achieved at several international farm congresses from 1909 onward.

In 1922 the grand championship for oats at the Chicago International Grain Show was won by J. W. Biglands, a farmer of the Edmonton District, and at the same show three other farmers of that district won the first, the second, and the third prizes for field peas. Mr. Biglands repeated his success at the Chicago International Grain Show of 1923, and at that show the grand championship for wheat also was won by an Edmonton District farmer, H. G. L. Strange. In 1924 Alberta won more prize money at the great Chicago show than any other province in Canada or state in the United States.

The high quality of Alberta's grain products is strikingly illustrated by the following summary of winnings at the Chicago International Grain Show for the past five years:

- 1920—2 championships and 19 prizes.
- 1921—4 championships and 32 prizes.
- 1922—3 championships and 36 prizes.
- 1923—2 championships and 46 prizes.
- 1924—2 first prizes and 43 other prizes.

Wheat is the great cash crop of the Edmonton District farmer, while oats, barley, rye and forage crops form the basis of the livestock and dairying industries.

### As Others See Us

The late United States Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, in his report to the President in 1923, pays tribute to the high quality of Alberta's wheat in this statement:

“Canadian farms have another advantage in the superior quality of their wheat. It is high in protein and much valued by foreign millers. The hard spring wheat of Canada for many years has sold at small premiums over American hard spring and winter wheats in Liverpool.”

This premium has been at times as high as nine cents. It is significant that millers of the United States are today importing Canadian wheat because of its high milling quality, notwithstanding a tariff of forty-two cents a bushel.



An Average Crop of Oats in the Edmonton District. Gives a good idea of the hospitable appearance of the landscape.

## Central Alberta, Canada

In quantity of yield also the Edmonton District ranks very high. Oats and barley in particular are almost phenomenal crops. Oats often yield 100 bushels and sometimes 125 bushels per acre on new land. Yields of 60 to 80 bushels are common with good farmers. Good, clean, well-filled oats give as high as 44 pounds to the bushel, although the standard weights fixed by law vary from 38 pounds to 32 pounds. At a recent provincial seed fair each of the ten best samples exhibited exceeded 50 pounds to the bushel.

### Alberta a Seed Nursery

Climatic, soil and general growing conditions are so favorable in the Edmonton District that increasing quantities of seed wheat, oats, barley and other grains of rare quality are being supplied to other provinces and to several states. Registered seed from elite stock is distributed by the Alberta government to the farmers of the province who desire it. The yield from such seed is sent to a government cleaning and grading plant at Edmonton for sale on the farmer's account. Alberta is fast becoming the seed grain nursery of the continent.

From the foregoing it is apparent that the Edmonton District possesses a unique combination of low priced land, favorable climatic, soil and growing conditions, high yields and high quality in production. As pointed out before, the United States Tariff Commission of 1923, after investigating the cost of growing wheat in every state of the Union and in every province of Canada, found that wheat could be grown in the Edmonton District at less cost per bushel and at greater profit to the farmer than in any other part of America.

## Mixed Farming



MIXED farming and dairying are making rapid progress in the Edmonton District.

Conditions are so favorable for the production of grain, hay, forage and root crops, and so conducive to the cheap feeding and handling of live stock all on the same farm, that better results are obtained from these combined operations than from growing grain alone. Great quantities of grains and coarse fodders are easily and cheaply grown. Beef cattle, hogs and sheep are easily carried on every farm. If to these are added a few dairy cows and poultry, any farmer is assured every year of a good living, a regular income, and a tidy surplus at the end of his year's work.

A large proportion of the land of the Edmonton District is particularly well suited to stockraising. Pasturage is abundant throughout the summer and fall. Everywhere the raising of beef cattle is a safe undertaking. The

## The Edmonton District

early settlers soon found that cattle would thrive and fatten, fit for market, on the native grasses of the prairies and woodlands. Brome, western rye, Kentucky bluegrass, timothy, red top, and clovers are easily grown where native pasturage has been plowed up.

### Winter Fattening in the Open

The winter climate is so dry and bracing, the snowfall so light, as a rule, that none but milk cows are housed in stables in the winter season. Young cattle and horses regularly feed out all winter, foraging over the vacant lands of the vicinity, and in the fields and around the straw stacks of the farm. Prime steers are fattened in open yards and sheds. Every winter thousands of cattle were fattened in open yards adjoining the Edmonton Stock Yards for the markets of Great Britain and the Continent. In many districts wild hay can be cut and stacked in sheltered places near water for winter feeding.

In the foothill country, west of Edmonton, there are great tracts of country providing natural feeding grounds and shelter for cattle and sheep—an attractive opportunity to the farmer who desires a purely pastoral occupation.

Most of the cattle are grades of the beef breeds that will raise vigorous, quick-maturing steers, but the advantages of purebred stock are rapidly becoming appreciated, and both the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture are doing everything possible to improve the quality of the principal beef and dairy breeds.



Cutting Sweet Clover with a Corn Cutter, Edmonton District.



Boys' and Girls' Calf-feeding Competition at Edmonton Spring Show.  
Choice Holstein Dairy Herd owned by the Government of Alberta.

## The Edmonton District

Livestock from the Edmonton District, like the grain, stands high at the Chicago International Fat Stock Show. During the last three years first, second and third prizes have been won by breeders of the District in different classes of cattle—grade steers, Shorthorns, Herefords and Angus.

Through the efforts of the governments, railways and livestock associations, farmers are paying increasing attention to the requirements of the British and European markets, which provide a new and profitable outlet for Alberta cattle since the removal of the British embargo. Following that re-



"Wee Donald," Twice Clydesdale Champion at Chicago International.

moval a considerable market for Alberta stockers has been found in Eastern Canada, where they are finished for the British market.

### Dairy Progress

"No part of the New World can point to a finer record  
"of dairy progress than can the Province of Alberta."

## Central Alberta, Canada

This is a quotation from Hoard's Dairyman two years ago that is borne out by the history of the dairy industry. From 1912 to 1922 the production of butter in the Province increased 500 per cent., and has been growing at an enormous rate since that time. Seventy per cent. of the butter of the Province is made in the Edmonton District, where the industry is carried on under ideal conditions.



Judging a group of Shorthorn youngsters at Edmonton Spring Show.

In addition to supplying the needs of consumers in Alberta, millions of pounds of butter are exported annually to Eastern Canada, British Columbia, Japan, China, Great Britain, Alaska, and to the United States.

In quality Alberta butter leads the Dominion of Canada. In 1924 Alberta creameries won over 50 per cent. of all the prizes offered at twelve of the leading exhibitions of Canada. Sixty-three per cent. of these winnings were first prizes.

### Gold Medal Butter

Realizing that good butter comes only from good cream, all cream is paid for according to grades fixed by law, the grading being done by government graders. The whole dairy industry is carefully supervised by the government. One of the foremost dairy experts in Canada, with a staff of specialists, carry

## The Edmonton District

on a vigilant campaign of education among the milk and cream producers and the creameries. As a result, butter from the Edmonton District, as from all Alberta, has quickly grown in favor in the London market, and shipments to that market are growing rapidly. At the London Dairy Show, held in October, 1925, butter made in Edmonton by P. Burns & Co., Ltd., won the Gold Medal in the Colonial Section of the Show, with the Woodland Dairy, Ltd., of Edmonton, being highly commended.

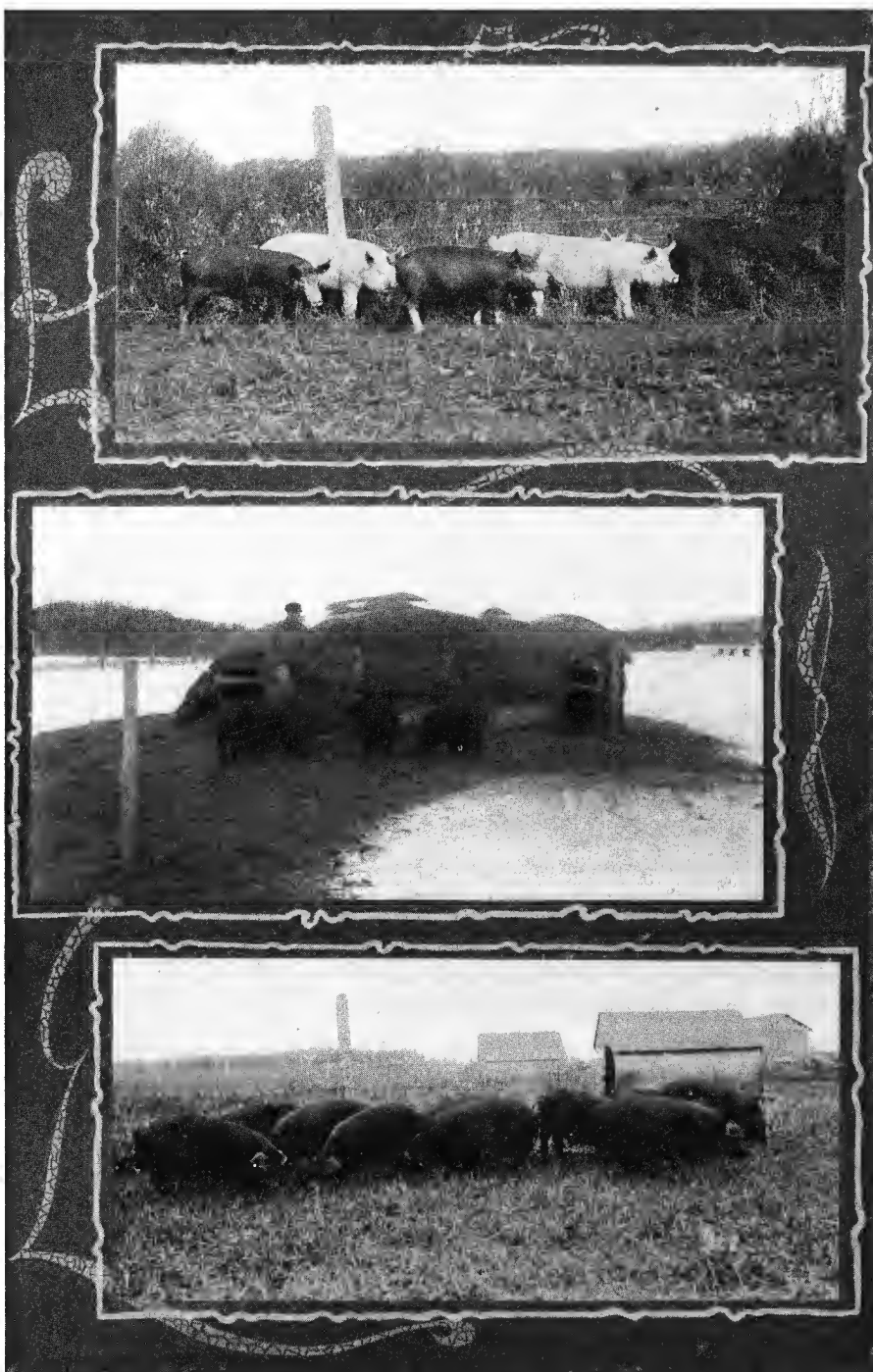
### Hogs

Conditions exceedingly favorable to successful hog raising exist throughout the whole Edmonton District. Abundant feed, cheap handling and good markets are the favorable factors. Rape, winter rye, white clover, alfalfa and Kentucky bluegrass provide succulent pasture from early spring to late autumn in quantities equalled by few districts in North America. Hog raising in the Edmonton District is taking the same place in the program of agriculture that it occupies in the Great Corn Belt of the United States. But the farmer from the Corn Belt usually thinks corn is essential to the successful fattening of his hogs. The farmer of the Edmonton District does not worry about corn. His young hogs are pastured and fed on ground oats and dairy waste, and fattened on a mixture of ground oats and barley, barley alone, or oats, barley and wheat, according to the price of these various grains. These feeds produce an excellent bacon, superior to the corn-fed product in flavor and firmness, and with sufficient leanness to make it attractive to the European consumer and comparable to best Danish bacon.

Most of the hogs marketed in the Edmonton District go through either the Edmonton Stock Yards or the packing plants of the City. Hogs so marketed



Fat and contented on natural pasture in the Edmonton District.



Select Bacons in Sweet Clover. A winter pen—a few poles and straw.  
Thick smooths on rye pasture.

## The Edmonton District

are sold by the farmer or dealer on grade, which is fixed by a government grader. A premium of 10 per cent. over the current price of thick, smooth hogs is paid for hogs of the select bacon type weighing from 160 to 210 pounds.

Wintering hogs is not difficult. Here again the dry, bracing air of the winter season aids the farmer. Elaborate, closely-built pens are not needed. Shelters of straw sheds are ample protection in the coldest weather. Wet weather in winter is practically unknown.

Hog raising is popular with the boys and girls of the District, and pig clubs are found in most of the rural districts.

### **Sheep**

Sheep raising has not become general, but persons who are engaged in it find the venture successful and profitable. Attention is paid mostly to the mutton breeds. An excellent market exists in the cities of Western Canada and particularly for lambs in British Columbia, where several times the total output of Alberta could be sold.

Poultry raising plays no small part in supplementing the revenue of the farm. The industry is well organized by the poultrymen and supported by the Government, which employs a Special Commissioner giving full time to the work. The Government maintains a poultry plant for the distribution of eggs, chicks and breeding stock to the farmers of the Province. The industry is flourishing.

### **Vegetables and Flowers**

All the common household vegetables reach a great state of perfection. Potatoes yield, on the average, from 150 to 200 bushels per acre, and yields of 300 bushels are occasionally recorded.

Garden flowers grow well. Annuals and perennials are conspicuous for the strength and size of the plant, and size and brilliance of the blooms.

The development of mixed and dairy farming has led to a great increase in the growth of fodder crops. The acreage of tame hay and clover has increased from 65,100 acres in 1910 to 245,178 in 1923. Sunflowers and green oats for silage purposes are other crops extensively grown. Corn is not yet common, but each year the area increases, reaching in 1923 a total of 53,000 acres. The quantity of fodder crops has grown from 340,000 tons in 1910 to nearly 5,000,000 tons in 1923.

## Central Alberta, Canada

Turnips, sugar beets, mangels, carrots, cabbage, celery, parsnips, lettuce, garden peas, strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, sweet peas, dahlias, asters—most vegetables, flowers and small fruits grow to perfection. The farmer or the gardener has very few insect pests and plant diseases to contend with.



The deep black loam of the Edmonton District is unsurpassed for the growing of flowers and vegetables. Experiments show that an acre of the virgin prairie soils of this District contains 10,000 pounds of nitrogen. The percentage of mineral contents is above the average. The combination of the mineral and nitrogen compounds places these soils among the most productive known to agriculture.



Swift Canadian Packing Plant.

## Markets Easily Available

The farmers of the Edmonton District are always assured of a good market for the principal products of the farm—grain, livestock, poultry, milk and cream.

The grain trade is under very strict government control, assuring the producer the greatest fairness in marketing his grain. The Canada Grain Act is specially designed to meet the needs of the prairie farmers, who produce ninety per cent. of the wheat of Canada. All grain is sold by grade established by law and determined by government inspectors, from which the farmer may appeal to an Appeal Board.

The enforcement of the Act is placed in the hands of the Board of Grain Commissioners, appointed by the Federal Government, and composed of men of high qualifications and integrity who command the confidence of the grain growers of Western Canada, as well as the grain dealers. No one can engage in the grain trade in Canada without a license from the Government Grain Board. All must be bonded so as to protect the farmers against loss by fraud or insolvency.

One or more grain elevators are located at every railway station. Some of these are owned and operated by the big milling and exporting companies. Others are owned by the farmers themselves.

## Central Alberta, Canada

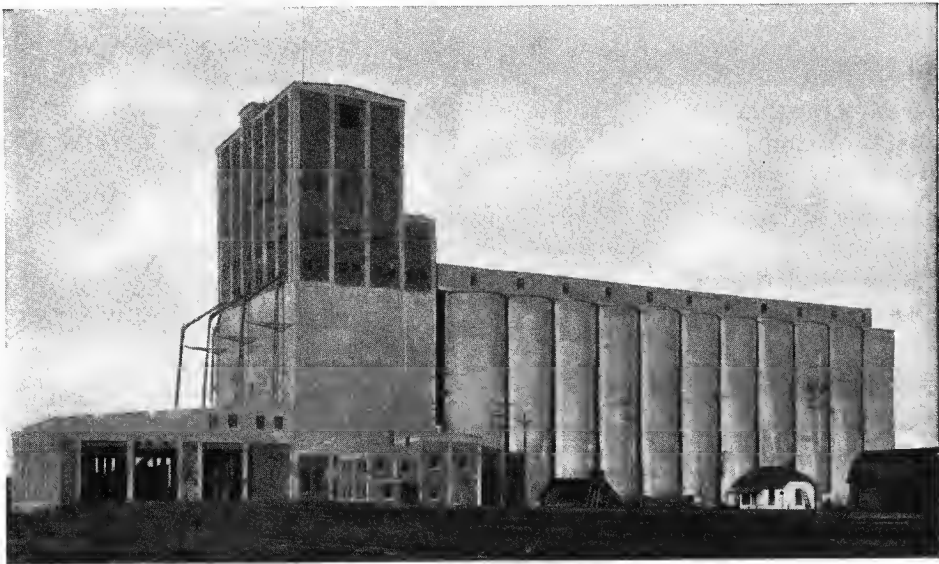
There are also a number of flour mills at Edmonton and elsewhere in the district. These help to maintain competition for wheat, and provide mill feeds.

The farmer may sell his grain at the elevator for cash, or he may store it in the elevator until he wishes to sell, or he may ship it to the terminal elevators on his own account without dealing through grain dealers. The law provides the farmer equal rights with the grain companies in securing cars for shipment.

Grain prices depend upon world supply and demand, and cost of shipment to the ultimate overseas markets. Edmonton District farmers are paid the value of the wheat at the head of the Great Lakes, or at Vancouver, less transportation and handling charges. These are much lower in Canada than in the United States, and this has an important bearing on profits from grain production in the Edmonton District.

### Pacific Grain Route

Until a few years ago all grain exported from Alberta was shipped via Winnipeg and Atlantic seaports. But since the opening of the Panama Canal increasing quantities have been exported via Pacific coast ports and through the Canal to Liverpool. Considerable trade has been developed with the Orient also, via Pacific coast ports. Huge terminal elevators and docks have been built at Vancouver and Prince Rupert and interior elevators at Edmonton—all to facilitate the westbound grain movement. The Edmonton District is directly east of the lowest pass in the whole Rocky Mountain range, and its



Government Elevator, Edmonton. Capacity 2,500,000 bushels.

## The Edmonton District

western boundary is only 650 miles from the Pacific coast. This alternative route to the world's markets is a great advantage to Edmonton District farmers. It maintains constant competition and already it has caused several successive reductions in transportation costs.

### **Low Freight Rates**

Today freight rates on grain from farm to seaport are much less in Western Canada than in the Western States. Figures made public in 1923 by the U.S. Tariff Commission show that one cent will haul a bushel of wheat 67 miles in Western Canada against only 37 miles in the Western States.

The average freight rate on grain from the Edmonton District to the head of the lakes is 15½ cents per bushel. To Vancouver the rate is 12½ cents. For similar distances in the Western States the rates are 25 cents and 20 cents respectively. To quote from the report of the late U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Wallace:

“Relatively high freight rates from the producing regions of the United States to the seaboard are a serious handicap in competition with other countries in the markets of the world. The freight rates from points in Montana to Duluth are from 7 to 10 cents a bushel higher than the rates in Canada for the same distance to Port Arthur and Fort William at the head of the lakes, from which the rates to Liverpool under normal conditions are substantially the same as from Duluth.”

### **Good Livestock Markets**

In the marketing of their livestock also, the farmers of the Edmonton District are on a world basis. They are served by selling organizations similar to those that sell the cattle, hogs and sheep of the farmers of the United States through the big stockyards of Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and other livestock centres.

One of the largest stockyards in Canada is located at Edmonton. It has connections with other stockyards in Canada and with livestock buyers in Europe, and these afford a steady outlet for the livestock of the Edmonton District. Like the grain elevators, the stockyards of Canada are under government inspection and control.

Further outlets for cattle and hogs are provided by three big packing plants located at Edmonton, one being the largest in Canada. These plants take about 75 per cent. of the hogs produced in the Edmonton District.

### **Egg and Poultry Marketing Service**

For the marketing of eggs and poultry also the Edmonton District has adequate facilities. The three packing plants operate cold storage equipment



Part of a lot of 4,218 cattle being fattened in the open for the Old Country market at winter fattening pens of Live Stock Producers, Limited, of Canada, Edmonton. (Photo taken December 29th, 1925.)

## The Edmonton District

under government supervision. The provincial government operates a co-operative poultry and egg marketing service, which has a stabilizing influence on the prices paid to farmers for these products.

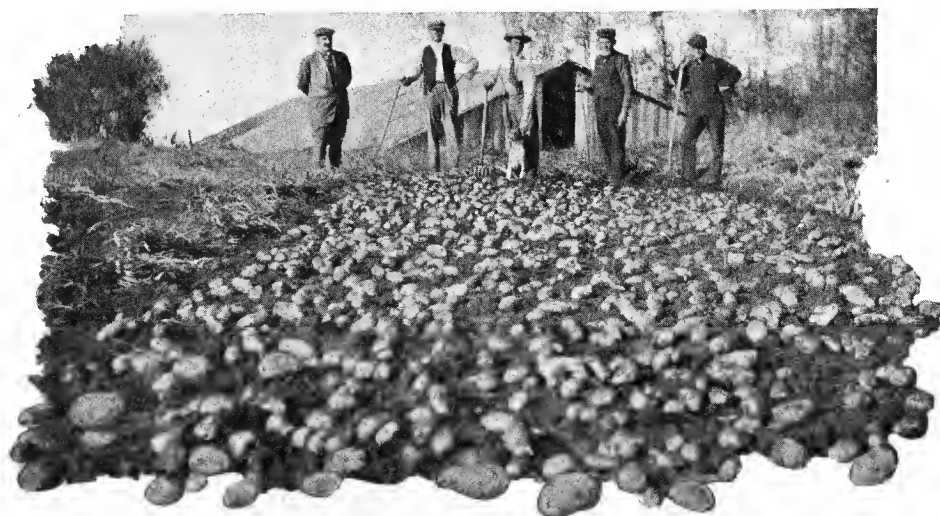
Edmonton is the most important butter-making centre in Canada. Steadily increasing markets for butter are being found in Eastern Canada, the Pacific coast, the Orient and Great Britain. Exports of butter from the Edmonton District have trebled in the last three years.

### Commodity Markets

Edmonton is the great distributing centre for the Edmonton District, and portions of Eastern British Columbia and Western Saskatchewan. Numerous wholesale houses with large modern warehouses carry heavy stocks from which the retail merchants of the territory mentioned are supplied. Edmonton's retail establishments cover every conceivable line of merchandise, and include large, well-equipped departmental stores as well as those handling only a limited number of lines.

Most of the big agricultural implement companies, both Canadian and American, have branch houses in Edmonton and agencies at all towns and villages throughout the Edmonton District. At these towns and villages there are also good general stores.

Edmonton itself, and the towns and villages of the Edmonton District, provide a good local market for the agricultural products of the district, supplementing substantially the export outlets to which reference has been already made.



Potatoes.

## Living Conditions



Other new agricultural country has ever accomplished so much in as short a time as the Edmonton District in providing the conveniences and the attractions of older and more thickly settled territories.

It is only twenty years since the Province of Alberta was formed. Assuming the responsibility of local government, and without the traditions and customs of older countries to retard them, the people of Alberta proceeded to set up a system of laws, schools, hospitals, telephones, etc., which at once placed them in front rank so far as the advantages of the common people are concerned. There are no "interests" in Alberta—its early legislators had one object to serve, the common good. They had largely only one class of people to serve—the people on the farms and ranches, who already were making the Province great.

Later, other services were organized by the government, or by the people themselves. The University of Alberta was established in 1908, and its Faculty of Agriculture serves the farming community in an extensive way in experimental and research work.

### Special Schools for Farm Boys and Girls

Special Schools of Agriculture have been established by the government, where farm boys and girls receive training in crops and cultivation, livestock husbandry, dairying, poultry raising, farm mechanics, household science, horticulture and rural economics, as well as courses in English, mathematics and civics. This training specially fits the young people of the farm for rural leadership and tends to keep them from drifting to the City. During the summer the staffs of the Agriculture Schools do the work of field agents in their respective communities. Short course Schools of Agriculture are held at several points every year. Agricultural Societies exist in most of the towns. They receive annual grants from the government and are very active in promoting better farming and better livestock breeding.

The new settler will find many public services here that go far to make Alberta a better place to live in. The rural people are actuated by a strong fraternal and public spirit. This finds expression in district hospitals, public health, district nursing, and child welfare services.

The leading roads of the Province are being permanently built by the Provincial Government, to which the Federal Government contributes 40 per cent. of the cost. Financial assistance is also given to the county or municipal

## The Edmonton District

governments for secondary and market roads. Experiments are under way to utilize the vast deposits of bituminous sands of the Athabaska Valley, to build waterproof hard-surface roads.

The automobile has become almost universal on the farm, a fact significant of the condition of country roads and the prosperity of the farmers.

### **Roads, Schools and Telephones**

Good public schools, assisted by the government, are located everywhere, while high schools and the University of Alberta look after secondary and higher education. A community with eight children of school age warrants the establishment of a school with a duly qualified teacher, and thus receives a yearly grant from the government.

The government rural telephones connect farm with farm, and farm with town, in all settled parts of the province. On leading roads there is a rural free delivery of mail.

In all villages and towns, amateur sport plays a great part in the life of the people. The moving picture theatre is universal. Good fishing and shooting are diversions of the summer and fall months. There is excellent radio broadcasting from Edmonton and other cities of the Canadian West and Pacific coast, while the clear atmosphere permits stations at long distance to be plainly heard. A feature of the local daily broadcasting is news of the market and the weather.

Fraternal societies and social organizations of various sorts are found everywhere. Social barriers do not exist. Friends are made quickly.

### **Farmers Have Social and Economic Organization**

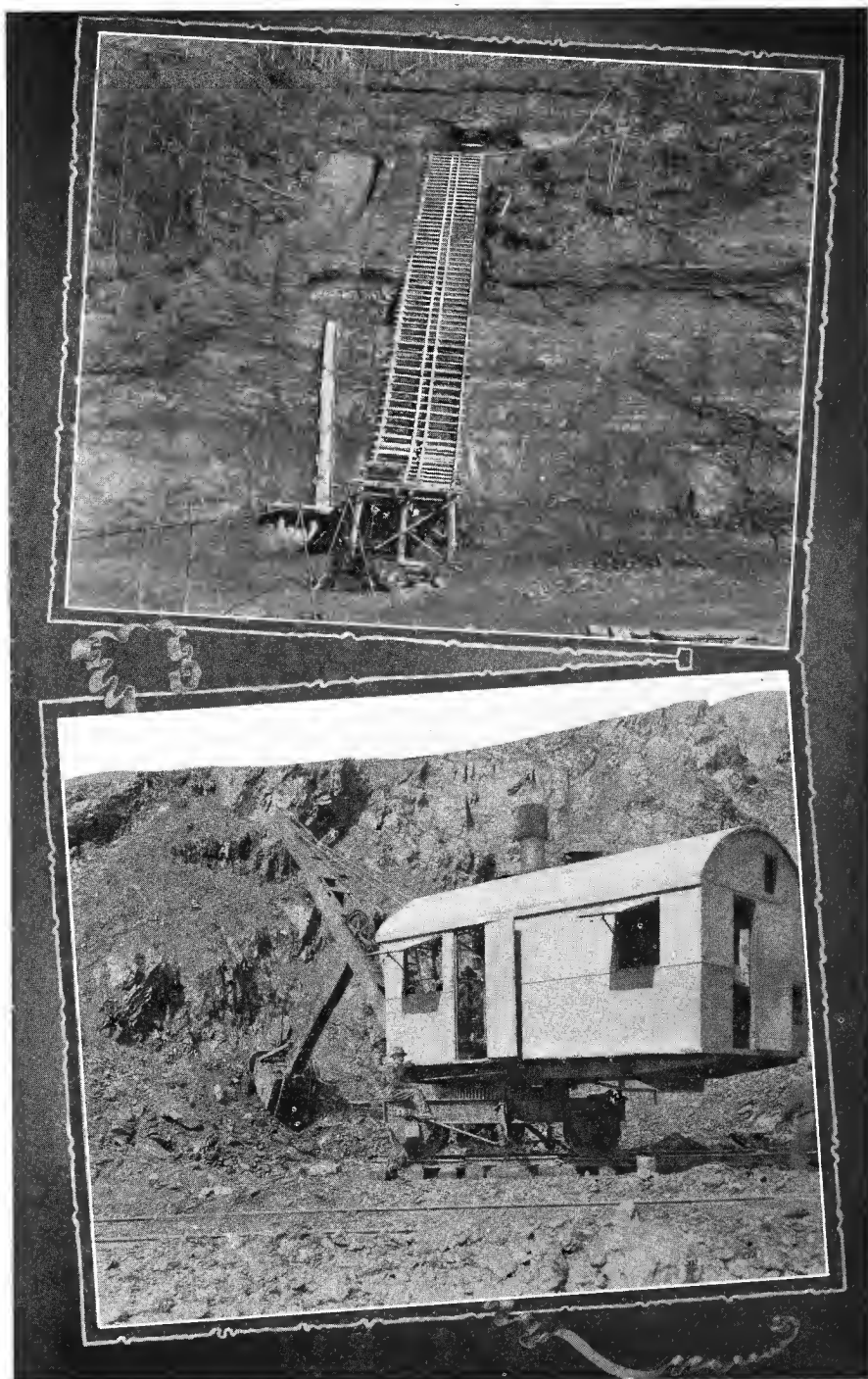
To provide a means for the discussion of farm problems, the "United Farmers of Alberta" was organized, and now has a membership of over 40,000. Affiliated Associations of Alberta Farm Women have a membership of 4,000. Every town and village has its Community Hall.

Churches of various denominations are found in every town and village and rural community. Religious liberty and freedom of worship are guaranteed to every denomination. Church and State are separate.

The system of government in Canada includes Federal, Provincial and Local Governments, corresponding closely to the Federal, State and County Governments of the United States.

The laws of Alberta are made by a Legislative Assembly, elected by the people of the Province every five years. Law is impartially enforced by the Courts.

Farm taxes here are much lower than in the United States. There is no personal property tax in Alberta.



Bituminous sand deposit. Mining coal in the Edmonton District with a steam shovel from a face 50 feet high.

## The Edmonton District

### Coal and Other Minerals

The Province of Alberta contains 17 per cent. of all the coal of the world. Next to agriculture, coal mining is the most important industry in the Province, and has an enormous future in the industrial development of Canada and adjacent States.

Almost every stream and river in the Western part of the Edmonton District cuts through a bed of coal. Great coal beds of different ages and grades—semi-anthracite, bituminous, sub-bituminous and lignite varieties—extend from the Rocky Mountains eastward for 300 miles under the foothills and prairies. In the country West of Edmonton beds varying from 5 feet to 60 feet in thickness are found in one formation. Another formation, known as "The Edmonton Formation," covers a larger area and contains beds from 5 feet to 25 feet thick. The City of Edmonton is underlaid with two seams each about 6 feet thick, and several mining companies operate within the limits of the City. There are about 70 coal mines in operation in the District, producing about 3,000,000 tons per year of steam and domestic coals. The sub-bituminous and lignite varieties make excellent domestic fuel, and burn easily in ordinary stoves and furnaces. The heating values of the various grades vary from 8,500 to 14,000 British Thermal Units.

#### Coal for Settlers

Coal is a public utility for the farmer and the Government of Canada guarantees farmers and homesteaders cheap coal by a regulation in all coal leases which gives them the right to purchase coal for their own use at the mine for not more than \$2.75 per ton.

#### Gas and Oil

One of the greatest natural gas fields on the continent crosses the Edmonton District from Northern Alberta, a few miles east of the City of Edmonton. Gas has been found at various points for a distance of 300 miles in this field. Edmonton City is supplied with natural gas from the Viking gas field, 80 miles to the east. Ten wells have been drilled in this field, all producers, and capable of giving an open flow of 60,000,000 cubic feet per day. Many farmers, and most of the towns and villages along the pipe line to Edmonton heat their homes with natural gas.

A few miles east of the gas field, in the Wainwright field, oil has been discovered, and further development is in progress. Oil has been found in several parts of the Province, and probably one of the finest oil wells in America is located in Alberta. It produces 400 barrels of pure gasoline per day.

Three hundred miles north of Edmonton there is an area of 25,000 square miles of bituminous or tar sands. These sands are of great economic value to

## Central Alberta, Canada

the farmers of the Province in the construction of hard-surfaced roads. The Research Department of the University of Alberta is conducting successful experiments to determine the best methods of utilizing these wonderful deposits. It is estimated by geologists that these sands contain on an average 10 gallons of crude petroleum per ton, and the whole deposit contains 30,000 million barrels of oil—600 times the world's annual production.

### Salt

Salt is extensively distributed in Northern Alberta, in the territory tributary to Edmonton. Beds of salt from 100 to 200 feet thick have been found 600 feet below the surface at Fort McMurray. Salt works have been established at Fort McMurray and various grades of common salt from this plant are being sold in the towns and cities of Alberta.

Deposits of clays and shales suitable for making brick and tile are found in several parts of the District.

Is it any wonder that Alberta has been called a "double-decked Province"—a surface of fertile soil above and enormous mineral wealth below?



A Rural School Fair, Edmonton District.



Part of Edmonton's down-town district. Edmonton District Chamber of Commerce office in the high white building in the centre.

## Edmonton City

The City of Edmonton is the commercial, financial and educational centre of the Edmonton District. It is, moreover, the capital of the Province of Alberta, and the seat of government.

The site of Edmonton was chosen many years ago when the Hudson's Bay Company ruled Western Canada and carried on its commerce. It was the principal trading centre in the territory now known as Alberta. From Fort Edmonton the windings of the Saskatchewan River could be followed east and west for hundreds of miles, and never a flotilla up or down stream but halted to trade for a few days beneath its wooden walls. Overland trails led southward to the Blackfoot Country; northward to the Athabaska River and the great fur-bearing country of the Crees, the Beavers and the Yellow Knives. Every spring the furs, leather and pemmican, gathered from a hundred points, were sent down the River from Edmonton and exchanged for the goods needed in the fur trade.

On the site of the old fort now stand the Parliament Buildings of Alberta, while on the opposite bank are situated the magnificent buildings of the Provincial University. Around the old site, in the most modern fashion, paved streets, spacious parks, stores, houses and factories have been built. The one-time fur trading post has grown to be the ninth City of Canada—a metropolitan community of over 65,000 population.

### The Gateway of a New Empire

Edmonton holds the key position to nearly one-quarter of the area of Canada—a territory of 900,000 square miles, rich in minerals, timber, water power, fish, grazing and agricultural lands.

Always a centre of transportation and trade, Edmonton has kept pace through the years with her natural facilities for carrying on these important functions. It is the hub of the railway systems of Central and Northern Alberta, from which radiate eleven lines, serving over 300 towns, villages and station points. Three transcontinental lines meet here, and it is at Edmonton that the principal work-shops of the Canadian National Railway System between Winnipeg and Vancouver, as well as the colonization offices of the system for the Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, are located.

The City is also the centre of the Provincial road system and highways development carried on by the Provincial Government, which is making it convenient to reach Edmonton, not only for the tourist, but for the farmers in all sections of the district. Edmonton owns and operates all its own public utilities, and was the first City in Canada to establish a municipal telephone system.

## The Edmonton District

As befits a City serving so large a community, Edmonton's retail stores are large, numerous and well-stocked. They vie with those of larger and older cities in appreciation and use of things, new and beautiful. They range from the big modern department store to the specialty shop and the modest corner store.

Nearly every branch of mercantile trading is represented by the eighty-five wholesale houses, which supply goods not only to the Edmonton District but to the Peace River and the great districts to the north.

Splendid offices and mercantile buildings have been erected, and the City abounds in comfortable homes, from the modest bungalow to the more pretentious mansion.

However, Edmonton is not a city of massed wealth. Most of its people are young and working out their destiny. Wealth is well distributed, and no one who is willing to work need be poor.

### **Manufactures Growing**

Manufacturing is naturally in the initial stages, but satisfactory progress is being made. Edmonton makes much that her people use, and her products are carried to other parts of Canada and to many foreign countries. The dairy and meat industries are firmly rooted here. The largest packing house and the largest butter factory in Canada are located in Edmonton; also one of the largest and most modern livestock yards, and the largest cattle feeding and fattening plants in Canada.

During the last few years many industries have sprung up because of the ready supplies of raw materials and the local demand created by a city and surrounding territory of 400,000 people. Prominent examples are the manufacture of men's clothing, women's and children's wear, fur garments, biscuits, beverages, ice cream, confectionery and candies, soaps, perfumes, brooms, sheet metal products, wire fences, furnaces, harness, boats, canoes, lumber, sashes, doors, wooden boxes, paper cartons, cement, brick, flour and breakfast foods. Edmonton soda and fancy biscuits and Edmonton-made clothing are sold throughout the whole of Western Canada. There are in all over one hundred industrial plants in the City with a total output of nearly \$20,000.00 per year.

Edmonton is, of course, the centre of the grain trade for the District. A terminal elevator built by the Canadian Government has a storage capacity of 2,500,000 bushels, and all the important grain companies of Canada are represented on the Edmonton grain market.

But it is not as a manufacturing city or as a trading centre alone that Edmonton is interesting to the people of the surrounding district. Rather, it is as a city to come to—a city in which to shop—a city in which to find that diversion which all of us require from time to time. It is a remarkable com-

## Central Alberta, Canada

bination of a city not too large to be hospitable but sufficiently metropolitan to furnish entertainment to all classes of people.

Hotels of every grade, and private boarding houses cater to every description of tourist. The Maedonald Hotel, owned and operated by the Canadian National Railways, is one of the outstanding hotels of Canada for location, furnishings and service.

During the summer season a well equipped auto camp is operated, where motor visitors find facilities of every kind.

### Fine Educational Facilities

Edmonton is the seat of the Provincial University. Degrees are granted in Arts, Science, Agriculture, Engineering, Medicine, Pharmacy, Law and Commerce. Several theological colleges are affiliated with the University. There are sixty primary schools, four high schools and a technical school as well as private schools and business colleges. The youth of Edmonton and District, therefore, have ample opportunities for educational training.

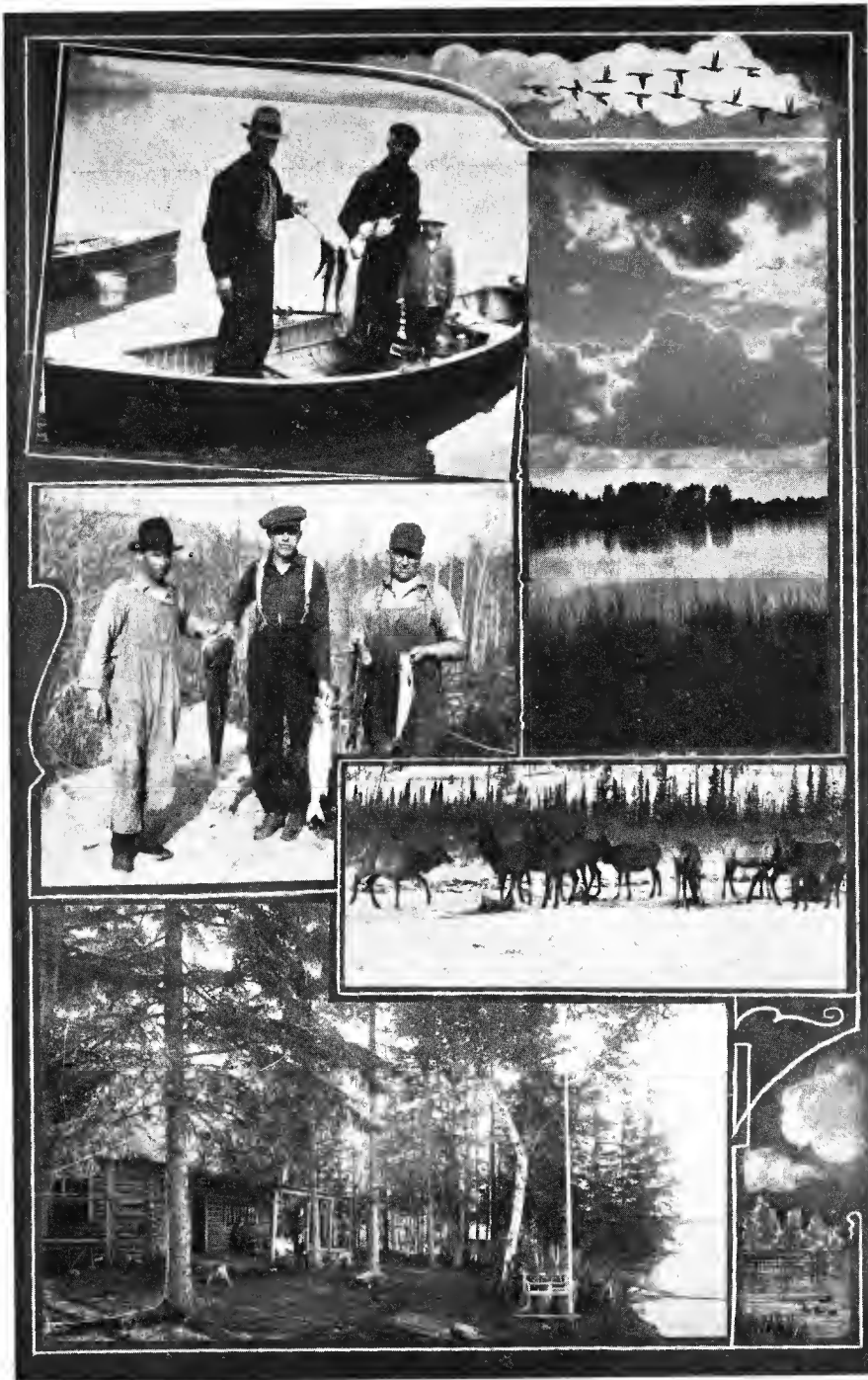
Men's and women's clubs are represented by the various forms of organizations found in modern cities.

Sports of various kinds are well organized. Of winter sports hockey and skating are the most popular. There are scores of amateur hockey clubs in different parts of the City and outlying towns. Curling and skating rinks are found in every section of the city. Skiing and tobogganing afford exhilarating and healthful exercise. The popularity of winter sports is the best testimony of our splendid winter climate. Tennis, cricket, soccer, baseball and lawn bowling are the most popular games in summer. There are three golf courses in the city and the game has taken a firm hold with all classes.

There are over eight hundred acres of public parks situated in different parts of the city, as well as several excellent children's play grounds. These parks are provided with splendid swimming pools, which afford delightful recreation daily in summer to hundreds of adults and children. Several lakes in the vicinity of Edmonton provide excellent summer resorts and are easily reached by motor or by train.

### Where City and Country Meet

The Annual Summer Fair, and Annual Spring Livestock Show, each lasting a week; conventions of the United Farmers of Alberta and the United Farm Women of Alberta, Women's Institute, Seed Grain Show, and meetings of the various livestock and poultry associations of the Edmonton District draw large crowds of people from the country every season of the year and afford a pleasant diversion to farm life.



#### SOME OF EDMONTON'S RECREATION SPOTS

Scenes from Jasper Park, and from Wabamun and Cooking Lakes. Jasper Park is the largest big game preserve in America.

## General Statistics



**I**N considering future possibilities of a territory, in addition to examining its natural advantages and resources, it is well to look over its history for a few years to see how these advantages and resources have worked out to the interest of the people already there.

Also, it is advisable to inquire what the people now in the district are doing—how they are getting along. Is their success and their accomplishment sufficient to warrant the belief that others joining them also will be able to make a success?

Have the opportunities of the district been exhausted? Have all the best chances of success been seized by those already there?

These inquiries must be answered clearly and definitely. The answers must show the intending settler that not only has nature favored the district and that man has achieved success out of these resources and advantages, but also that they have not been entirely pre-empted.

Answering the last question first, the position of the Edmonton District today is like that of the mining property from which valuable mineral has been won by a little development work, and the extent and value of whose mineral deposits have been conclusively proven by the sinking of test pits in every part of the property.

Answering the first question—what has been accomplished by those who already are located in the Edmonton District—the statistics of the whole Province of Alberta, and of the Edmonton District itself, tell an eloquent story of steady, healthy growth.

For convenience we have chosen, as far as possible, the same dates for our comparisons. Bearing in mind that this district has never been a field for speculators and that our people are largely of the permanent, home building, agricultural class, the figures of increased production from year to year are truly remarkable, for in addition to the progress which the figures show, there is the building of houses and barns, improvement of farm property, purchase of farm machinery and other plant, which runs into many millions of dollars. But all around, the countryside shows these improvements, and every farmer in accordance with his industry has been able to secure his ample share of the good things.

It is submitted that the record of growth here given, together with the vast areas not yet settled on which opportunity exists equal to and greater than those of past years, is conclusive demonstration that the growth of this District will be substantial and that it will continue for many years to come.

## The Edmonton District

In reading the figures which follow, it is well to bear in mind that the Province of Alberta was not created till the year 1905.

### ALBERTA'S DEVELOPMENT SHOWN IN TABLOID FORM.

	1905	1924
Population .....	160,000	637,000
Wheat production, bushels.....	3,035,843	* 65,000,000
Oat production, bushels.....	11,728,314	* 63,000,000
Coal production, tons.....	811,228	** 5,000,000
Number of men employed in mines.....	1,800	12,000
Value coal production.....	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
Railway mileage .....	1,060	4,700
Acreage under cultivation.....	616,821	11,000,000
Butter production, pounds.....	1,000,000	21,000,000
School enrolment .....	28,784	128,000
Number school districts.....	585	3,388
Capital invested in manufacturing.....		\$ 55,000,000
Yearly payroll in manufacturing.....		\$ 66,000,000
Number employed in manufacturing.....		12,000
University enrolment (1908).....	45	1,350
Value poultry and products (1912).....	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 9,000,000
Number of farms.....	25,000	90,000
Value agricultural products.....	\$20,000,000	\$225,000,000

\*—Year of 1923 was record. Yields of that year were 145,000,000 bushels of wheat and 114,000,000 bushels of oats.

\*\*—Total reduced by 7½ months' coal strike. Total tonnage for 1923 was 6,866,000.

### POPULATION, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

1901 (Dominion Census) .....	73,022
1911 " " .....	373,928
1921 " " .....	588,454
1925 (Estimated by Dominion Government for subsidy purposes).....	640,000

### PUPILS IN SCHOOLS, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

1906 .....	28,000
1924 .....	147,500

### LAND SITUATION, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

Total area of Province.....	163,382,000 acres
Area of arable land surveyed.....	63,000,000 "
Area of arable land in Edmonton District available for settlement..	15,000,000 "

### SIZE OF FARMS, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

Census of 1921 showed 82,954 farms in Alberta, of which 42,744 were each over 300 acres in extent. Of the remainder 37,693 each were over 100 acres in extent. Over 65,000 of these farms were occupied by the owner. Farms with telephone connection, 20,000.

### DAIRY PRODUCTION, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

	1905	1915	1924
Butter .....	813,000 lbs.	7,544,000 lbs.	21,335,000 lbs.
Cheese .....		381,832 lbs.	1,675,000 lbs.
Value of Dairy Products....		\$15,895,586	\$22,928,750

## Central Alberta, Canada

### VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

	1910	1916	1924
Wheat .....	\$6,676,318	\$70,875,000	\$73,574,331
Oats .....	5,743,773	39,600,000	22,725,872
Barley .....	1,075,348	6,939,500	7,420,770
Flax .....	162,529	1,389,000	2,606,534
Rye .....	59,435	225,000	254,280
Peas .....	3,749	29,300	39,816
Beans .....	222	.....	11,064
Mixed Grains .....	17,155	47,800	181,507
Potatoes .....	1,191,485	3,968,000	2,797,161
Turnips .....	44,800	750,000	825,250
Grain Hay .....	.....	.....	43,691,000
Hay and Clover.....	1,238,982	2,879,100	3,855,000
Alfalfa .....	81,830	584,000	1,393,420
Fodder Corn .....	18,019	.....	1,349,440
Sunflowers .....	.....	.....	481,950
Alfalfa Seed .....	2,550	.....	30,600
Honey .....	.....	.....	13,750
Wool .....	.....	*560,000	223,892
Creamery Butter .....	533,422	2,610,396	7,035,400
Cheese .....	23,473	.....	279,887
Other Dairy Products.....	.....	12,500,000	15,893,275
Poultry Products .....	.....	3,000,000	8,916,000
Animals Slaughtered and Sold.....	.....	*35,000,000	20,772,593
Horticultural and Garden Products.....	.....	160,000	1,500,000
Game and Furs.....	.....	.....	2,000,000
Total of All Agricultural Products.....	.....	\$174,727,650	\$217,757,120

\*—Excess of 1916 over 1924 due to war prices.

### LIVE STOCK, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

	1910	1915	1924
Horses .....	254,197	620,000	875,923
Dairy Cows .....	94,671	210,000	434,237
All Cattle .....	672,709	843,974	1,629,815
Hogs .....	200,000	229,696	1,016,380
Sheep .....	155,301	525,000	206,458
Poultry .....	2,445,117	3,172,777	6,484,781

### AVERAGE YIELDS OF GRAIN PER ACRE IN DIFFERENT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS OF THE EDMONTON DISTRICT, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA. FOR THIRTEEN YEARS, 1911 - 1923.

Electoral District.	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flax
Camrose .....	22	36	25	19	9
Sedgewick .....	20	35	24	21	9
Red Deer .....	24	35	29	20	12
Lacombe .....	23	36	27	13	11
Wetaskiwin .....	21	33	34	20	7
Leduc .....	22	29	25	17	13
South Edmonton .....	26	39	29	20	12
Victoria .....	23	37	27	17	11
Sturgeon .....	26	35	30	20	10
St. Albert .....	26	35	30	20	10
Pembina .....	21	34	23	21	11
Stony Plain .....	21	33	26	20	11

## The Edmonton District

### GRAIN ELEVATOR CAPACITY, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

1905 .....	1,715,500 bushels
1916 .....	23,106,000 “
1923 .....	36,845,000 “
1925 .....	45,120,000 “

### COAL PRODUCTION, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

Known coal reserves—1,035,629 million tons, or 21% of the known coal reserve of all North America.

	1905	1916	1923
Tons mined .....	931,917	4,559,054	6,866,923

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## Information for Settlers

### LOW FARES FOR LAND SEEKERS AND SETTLERS

Low fares are available from Canadian boundary points, both one way or return, for settlers from United States wishing to look for land in Edmonton District. To obtain the benefit of these special fares call on or write the nearest Canadian Pacific or Canadian National Railway Agent, who will quote fares and make all arrangements for your trip, or write John Blue, Secretary, Edmonton District Chamber of Commerce, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

All railways in the United States have connections with Canadian Railways through the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie (Soo Line), Spokane International, Great Northern or Northern Pacific Railways.

First class round trip home seekers' tickets are on sale from middle western States the first and third Tuesday each month, February to December, inclusive. These round trip rates apply through Duluth, Emerson, Gretna and North Portal gateways.

The Edmonton District can be reached by good motor roads from any of the main motor highways of the United States. Entry can be made through any customs port, the principal ones being as follows:

Emerson,	North Portal,	Kingsgate,
Gretna,	Coutts,	Huntingdon,
Northgate,	Twin Lakes,	Blaine,
Eastgate,	Vancouver.	

Write for Auto Map.

If you wish a Good Roads Map connecting with good roads in neighboring States and Provinces, write us.

### FREIGHT RATE FOR FARM SETTLERS

Special freight rates are granted on bonafide farm settlers' effects, originating in the United States.

## Central Alberta, Canada

The rates from the following points, located on the international boundary, to Edmonton, are as follows:

From Emerson, Manitoba.....	\$52.00	per car
“ Northgate, Saskatchewan .....	52.00	“ “
“ Vancouver, B.C. ....	68.80	“ “
Also Sapperton, B.C., ex G.N. Ry.....	68.80	“ “
“ Chilliwack, B.C., ex B.C.E. Ry.....	65.60	“ “
“ Coutts, Alberta .....	25.80	“ “
“ Gretna, Manitoba .....	52.00	“ “
“ Huntingdon, B.C. ....	68.80	“ “
“ Kingsgate, B.C. ....	52.00	“ “
“ North Portal, Sask.....	36.60	“ “

The rate from Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth and Superior to Edmonton, is \$60.00 per car.

The Canadian National Railways have, in addition, special rates from Calgary to destination on their line for settlers moving from or through Montana via Sweetgrass and Coutts.

These rates apply on any size car, contents weighing 24,000 pounds. If contents weigh over 24,000 pounds the excess weight will be charged at a proportionate rate.

To secure these rates, cars must consist of household goods and personal effects (all second hand). Shippers may include agricultural implements, farm vehicles, one farm tractor, one automobile (all second hand), ten head of live-stock, 2,500 feet lumber, seed grain not to exceed 4,500 pounds wheat, 3,400 pounds oats, and 4,800 pounds of barley, and small lot of live poultry.

### **SPECIAL NOTICE**

Settlers should in all cases bill their cars through to final destination in the Edmonton District, so as to get the benefit of the through rate. If cars are billed only to Edmonton, and then forwarded to another point in the district, it will mean that a combination of two separate rates will be assessed, which is always higher than a through rate.

### **CUSTOMS REGULATIONS**

A settler may bring into Canada, free of duty, live stock for the farm on the following basis, if he has actually owned such live stock abroad for at least six months before his removal to Canada, viz.: If horses only are brought in, 16 allowed; if cattle are brought in, 16 allowed; if sheep are brought in, 160 allowed; if swine are brought in, 160 allowed. If horses, cattle, sheep, and swine are brought in together, or part of each, the same proportions as above are to be observed.

## The Edmonton District

Duty is to be paid on live stock in excess of the number for which provision is made as above. For customs entry purposes a mare with a colt under six months old is to be reckoned as one animal; a cow with a calf under six months old is also to be reckoned as one animal. Cattle and other live stock imported into Canada are subject to quarantine regulations.

Settler's effects, free, viz.:—Wearing apparel, books, usual and reasonable household furniture and other household effects; instruments and tools of trade, occupation or employment, guns, musical instruments, domestic sewing machines, typewriters, bicycles, carts, wagons and other highway vehicles, agricultural implements and live stock for the farm, not to include live stock or articles for sale, or for use as a contractor's outfit, nor vehicles or implements moved by mechanical power, nor machinery for use in any manufacturing establishment.

Machines, vehicles and implements for agricultural purposes, moved by mechanical power, and motor vehicles, valued at not more than one thousand dollars, and boats for fishing purposes. All the foregoing are admitted free of duty if actually owned abroad by the settler for at least six months before his removal to Canada, and subject to regulations prescribed by the Canadian Minister of Customs and Excise.

Provided that any dutiable article entered as settler's effects may not be so entered unless brought by the settler on his first arrival, and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of without payment of duty until after twelve months' actual use in Canada.

Also free gas or gasoline traction engines for farm purposes, valued at not more than fourteen hundred dollars each, and complete parts thereof; traction attachments designed and imported to be combined with automobiles in Canada for use as traction engines for farm purposes and parts thereof for repairs, (but subject to sales tax of five per cent. if not owned by the settler at least six months before entry).

The settler will be required to take oath that all of the articles have been owned by himself or herself for at least six months before removal to Canada; that none have been imported as merchandise, for use in a manufacturing establishment or as a contractor's outfit, or for sale; that he or she intends becoming a permanent settler within the Dominion of Canada and that the "live stock" enumerated is intended for his or her own use on the farm which he or she is about to occupy (or cultivate), and not for sale or speculative purposes, nor for the use of any other person or persons.

## Central Alberta, Canada

### SYNOPSIS OF HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS

All surveyed agricultural Dominion lands, except School Lands, in Alberta, which are not disposed of are open to homestead.

The sole head of a family and every male person who has attained the age of 18 years is entitled to obtain entry for one-quarter section (160 acres), on payment of a fee of \$10.00.

A widow having minor children of her own, dependent on her for support, is permitted to make homestead entry as the sole head of a family.

An Agent may reserve one available quarter section as a homestead for a minor over seventeen years of age, until he is eighteen, on certain conditions.

#### WHERE ENTRY IS TO BE MADE

Application for homestead entry may be made either at the Land Agency of the District in which the land is situated, or at the office of the sub-agent authorized to transact business in the district. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Land Agency or sub-agency for the District. Entry by proxy may be made under certain conditions.

#### DUTIES

Residence on homestead for at least 6 months in each year during a term of three years.

Cultivation, in each of three years. Thirty acres must be broken, and twenty acres must be cropped at the end of the third year before applying for patent.

A homesteader may perform the required residence duties by living on a farm owned solely by him, his father, mother, son, brother, sister, of not less than eighty acres, and not more than nine miles in a direct line from his homestead.

The area required to be cultivated is subject to reduction in case of rough, wooded or broken land.

Livestock may be substituted for cultivation duties under certain conditions where the land is not suitable for grain growing.

#### WHEN TO BEGIN RESIDENCE

A homesteader is allowed six months from the date of his entry within which to perfect the same by taking possession of the land and beginning his residence duties in connection therewith. Any entry not so perfected within that period is liable to cancellation.

While there are millions of acres of land available for homesteading, attention is directed to the paragraphs in the accompanying pamphlet urging the advisability of buying land accessible to railways and markets in preference to going back for free land.

## CONFIDENTIAL

The following information is asked in confidence by the Edmonton District Chamber of Commerce. Its purpose is to enable the Chamber to give you definite information regarding the opportunities in the Edmonton District which are best suited to your needs and circumstances.

### FACTS ABOUT YOUR PRESENT LOCATION

Name.....	R.F.D. or other address.....
Number in family.....	Ages of Family: Boys.....
Size of present farm.....acres.	Girls.....
Distance from Railway.....	Owner or Renter.....
Have you a telephone?.....	Distance from School.....
Kind of crops you raise.....	Automobile.....
.....	
Number Horses.....Milk Cows.....	Other Cattle.....
Hogs.....Sheep.....Poultry: Hens.....	Turkeys.....Geese.....

### WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE IN THE EDMONTON DISTRICT

What size of a farm would you be interested in here?.....acres

Do you want to specialize on grain growing?.....

Mixed Farming?.....Dairy Farming?.....

Do you want an improved farm, or wild land?.....

How far will you go back from the railway?.....

Is there any special information on the Edmonton District that you would like?.....

If so, what?.....

.....

Will you come over to the Edmonton District to look at the land?.....

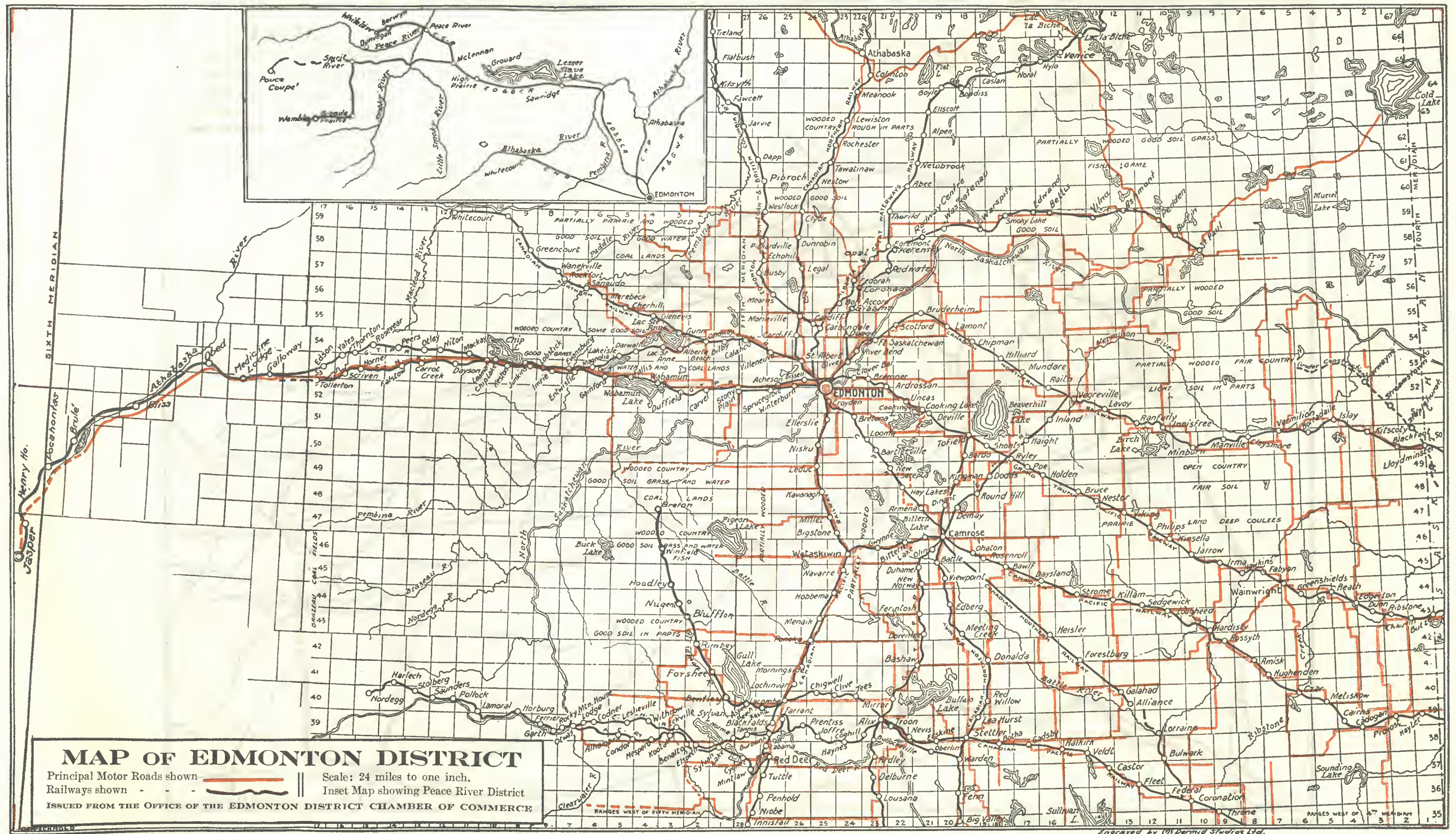
If so, about when will you come?.....

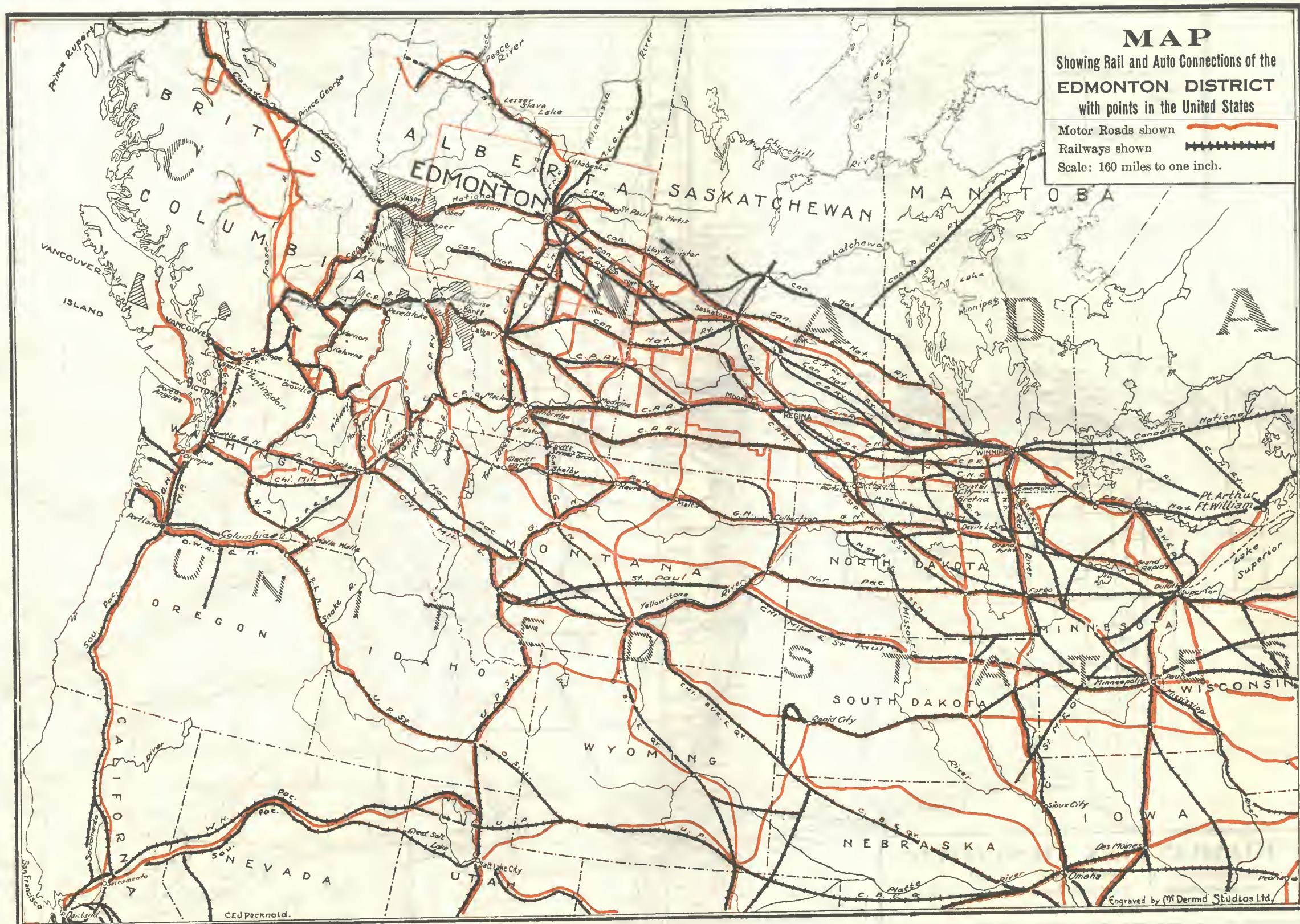
Will you come by train or automobile?.....

Will you come to the office of the Edmonton District Chamber of Commerce, Ground  
Floor, McLeod Building, for information?.....

Please fill in below the names of a few of your friends whom you think would be interested in receiving a copy of the book on the Edmonton District or other information.

Name.....	R.F.D. or other address.....
Name.....	R.F.D. or other address.....
Name.....	R.F.D. or other address.....
Name.....	R.F.D. or other address.....





**MAP**  
Showing Rail and Auto Connections of the  
**EDMONTON DISTRICT**  
with points in the United States  
Motor Roads shown   
Railways shown   
Scale: 160 miles to one inch.

PRINTED IN CANADA AT  
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# Central Alberta

Canada's richest  
grain and  
mixed farming  
district

